



2131

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Masahiro Okada et al.
Confirmation No: 9209
Serial No. : 10/000,427
Filed : November 30, 2001
TC/A.U. : 2131
Examiner :

Docket No. : 01-730
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's continued duty of disclosure, the following documents are brought to the Examiner's attention:

- (1) Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 09-171575.

A listing on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed along with a copy of the non-U.S. documents.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it
is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit
Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

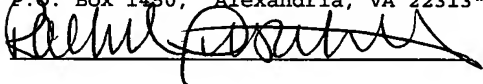
Masahiro Okada et al.

By 

Gregory P. LaPointe
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No.: 28,395
Tel: (203) 777-6628
Fax: (203) 865-0297

Date: June 16, 2005

I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on June 16, 2005.





Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTQ

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
-------	---	----	---

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/000,427
Filing Date	November 30, 2001
First Named Inventor	Masahiro Okada et al.
Art Unit	2131
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	01-730

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

**Examiner
Signature**

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.